

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation**  
**Division of Solid and Hazardous Materials**  
**Bureau of Solid Waste & Corrective Action, 9th Floor**  
625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233-7258  
**Phone: (518) 402-8594 • FAX: (518) 402-9025**  
**Website: www.dec.state.ny.us**



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LR/km  
bcc.

w/enc - J. Reidy, USEPA Region II

**VIA FAX & EXPRESS MAIL**

August 8, 2002

Mr. Larry Leskovjan, Manager  
Environmental Safety, Health & Medical Services  
Northrop Grumman Corporation  
South Oyster Bay Road  
Bethpage, NY 11714-3581

Marlene Olsen, Esq.  
Department of the Navy  
Naval Air Station Building 2272, Suite 257  
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S. Scharf. DER

Dear Mr. Leskovjan and Ms. Olsen:

Previous sampling by Northrop Grumman in the Plant 24 Access Road area, including the grassed area south of the access road that shares a boundary with the residential yards, demonstrated that PCB contamination is present in most surficial soil samples (0-2 inch) in excess of 1 ppm. In my June 11, 2002 letter to Mr. Leskovjan, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) ("the Agencies") requested that Northrop Grumman collect surface soil samples in the residential yards immediately south of the access road grassed area. Northrop Grumman respectfully declined the Agencies' request in Mr. Leskovjan's June 17, 2002 letter to me.

Therefore, the Agencies conducted a limited soil sampling program at 20 residential yards located between Sycamore Street and the Plant 24 Access Road. The samples were collected on July 2, 2002. A data summary is enclosed. The laboratory report for that sampling will be forwarded to you shortly. This Department's contract laboratory has confirmed the presence of elevated concentrations of PCBs and chrome in some of the soil samples collected from backyard locations which border the Plant 24 Access Road.

From the information that Northrop Grumman has submitted to this Department, it is clear that waste sludge and other fill material containing PCBs, among other contaminants, were transported along the Plant 24 Access Road and disposed on Northrop Grumman property that



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subsequently became the Bethpage Community Park. The aerial photographs, although a snapshot in time, show significant disturbance of land adjacent to the residential areas. Northrop Grumman and the Navy have acknowledged that this activity included the deposition and spreading of waste material from the facility. It is a reasonable supposition that many years of disposal activity have resulted in release of PCB-contaminated waste material via several pathways, such as wind dispersal, runoff, or use of the material for road construction/repair or landscaping purposes.

The Agencies believe that there is a linkage between the PCBs found in the residential yard surficial soils and the historical waste management activities by Northrop Grumman and the Navy. Therefore, we request that Northrop Grumman and the Navy develop an investigation work plan, acceptable to the Agencies, which fully defines the aerial and vertical extent of PCB and chrome contamination in the residential properties.

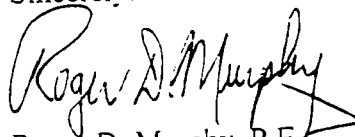
The Department requires a written commitment no later than COB Monday August 12, 2002 from Grumman and the Navy that they will develop and implement this work plan.

Such proposed work plan must be submitted no later than Friday, August 23, and implementation of such work plan must commence within seven days after receiving the Agencies' approval to proceed. Furthermore, the commitment from Grumman and the Navy should include their agreement to participate in the discussions requested in my July 26, 2002 letter, regarding the remedial needs for this entire area of concern, which includes the Bethpage Community Park, the access road, and the residential properties. Staff from the agencies are available to meet with either or both of your entities to aid in developing an acceptable work plan.

Be advised that failure to make the commitment requested and/or the failure to timely submit a work plan will result in the State developing and implementing the work plan, in which event the State will pursue responsible parties for any and all costs expended in this endeavor.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me or Larry Rosenmann at (518) 402-8594.

Sincerely,



Roger D. Murphy, P.E.  
Chief, Western Engineering Section

Enclosure

cc: w/enc. - P. Sobel  
J.L. Colter

# PCB Data (ppm) in Yard Samples Near Bethpage

SDG: 0207L080

| Sample   | Aroclor | ppm   |
|----------|---------|-------|
| 267-10   | 1260    | 0.097 |
| 258-11   | 1254    | 1.00  |
| 152SYF   |         | ND    |
| 142SYHRE | 1260    | 0.055 |

SDG: 0207L087

| Sample                | Aroclor | ppm   |
|-----------------------|---------|-------|
| 267-7                 | 1260    | 0.18  |
| 266-7                 |         | ND    |
| 265-6                 |         | ND    |
| 160SYC                | 1248    | 0.25  |
|                       | 1254    | 0.39  |
| 156SYC                | 1254    | 1.7   |
| 152SYC                |         | ND    |
| 150SYC                |         | ND    |
| 126SYC                | 1254    | 58    |
| 146SYC                | 1248    | 0.12  |
|                       | 1254    | 0.87  |
| 142SYC                | 1248    | 0.051 |
|                       | 1254    | 0.35  |
| 789STE                | 1254    | 10    |
| 268-8                 |         | ND    |
| 132SYC                | 1248    | 0.35  |
|                       | 1254    | 0.86  |
| 265-8                 | 1254    | 1.2   |
| 140SYC                | 1248    | 0.25  |
|                       | 1254    | 0.55  |
| 296-9                 |         | ND    |
| 295-9                 |         | ND    |
| 266-10                |         | ND    |
| ND: Results < 1.0 ppm |         |       |